

In The Claims

1. (Cancelled)

2. (Cancelled)

3. (Currently Amended) The ~~motor vehicle~~ folding top assembly according to claim 1, in which, when the folding top assembly passes from the open position to the closed position or vice versa, the cover member ~~element of covering~~ performs a rotation through approximately 180° about ~~the~~ said first horizontal axis with respect to the frame of the motor vehicle.

4. (Currently Amended) The ~~motor vehicle~~ folding top assembly according to claim 1, in which ~~the~~ said two ~~half-elements~~ half-element members are hinged together so as to rotate with respect to one another about a second horizontal axis parallel to said ~~the~~ first horizontal axis ~~;~~ when the folding top assembly passes from the open position to the closed position or vice versa, ~~the~~ said first half-element member of front covering rotates with respect to ~~the~~ said second half-element member of rear covering about ~~the~~ said second horizontal axis.

5. (Currently Amended) The ~~motor vehicle~~ folding top assembly according to claim 4, in which when the folding top assembly passes from the open position to the closed position or vice versa, said first ~~the~~ half-element member of front covering performs a rotation substantially of 180° about ~~the~~ said second horizontal axis with respect to ~~the~~ said second half-element member of rear covering.

6. (Currently Amended) The ~~motor vehicle~~ folding top assembly according to claim 4, in which ~~the~~ said first half-element member of front covering is connected to ~~the~~ said second half-element member of rear covering in such a way that a top surface of the first half-element member of front covering rests on a top surface of ~~the~~ said second half-element member of rear covering.

7. (Cancelled)

8. (Currently Amended) The ~~motor vehicle~~ folding top assembly according to claim 4, in which ~~the~~ said two ~~half-elements~~ half-element members are connected together ~~in~~ such a way that ~~the~~ said first half-element member of front covering performs a

translation or [[a]] rototranslation to set itself on top of [[the]] said second half-element of rear covering member.

9. (Cancelled)

10. (Cancelled)

11. (Cancelled)

12. (Cancelled)

13. (Cancelled)

14. (Currently Amended) The ~~motor vehicle~~ folding top assembly according to claim [[1]] 36, wherein [[the]] said outer frame member surrounds said cover member the ~~central portion~~ substantially on three sides.

15. (Currently amended) The ~~motor vehicle~~ folding top assembly according to claim [[13]] 36, wherein [[the]] said outer frame member surrounds said cover member ~~completely the central portion~~ on four sides.

16. (Cancelled)

17. (Cancelled)

18. (Cancelled)

19. (Cancelled)

20. (Cancelled)

21. (Cancelled)

22. (Cancelled)

23. (Cancelled)

24. (Cancelled)

25. (Cancelled)

26. (Cancelled)

27. (Currently Amended) The ~~motor vehicle~~ folding top assembly according to claim [[1]] 36, wherein [[the]] said frame member comprises a pair of vertical uprights[[.]]

which are set on opposite sides of a passenger compartment, ~~carry hinged thereto the element of covering,~~ and wherein said frame member and vertical uprights perform the function of a roll-bar in the event [[of]] the motor vehicle itself turning turns over.

28. (Cancelled)

29. (Cancelled)

30. (Cancelled)

31. (Cancelled)

32. (Currently Amended) The ~~motor vehicle~~ folding top assembly according to claim [[1]] 36, further comprising, wherein there is provided a transparent [[plane]] panel member, which is set substantially vertical and defines a rear window.

33. (Currently Amended) The ~~motor vehicle~~ folding top assembly according to claim 32, wherein [[the]] said transparent panel member is mounted so as to displace parallel to itself adapted to be moved in a substantially vertical direction between an extracted position[[,]] in which [[the]] said transparent panel member comes out of ~~the~~ a bodywork, and a retracted position[[,]] in which [[the]] said transparent panel member is housed inside [[the]] a bodywork of the vehicle in a respective seat.

34. (Currently Amended) The ~~motor vehicle~~ folding top assembly according to claim [[1]] 36, wherein said first horizontal axis is a fixed axis.

35. (Cancelled)

36. (New) A folding top assembly for a motor vehicle, said top assembly being supported by a frame of the vehicle and being able to move between open and closed positions, said folding top assembly comprising:

an outer frame member; and

a cover member positioned on said frame member and covering the area inside the frame member;

said frame member hinged to a frame of the motor vehicle so it can rotate about a first horizontal axis when the folding top passes from the open position to the closed position and vice versa;

said frame member comprising two half-element members, said half-element members being connected together such that a first half-element member of said cover member positioned towards the front of the vehicle can be rotated, positioned and rested on the second half-element member of said cover member when the folding top passes from the closed position to the open position;

wherein when said folding top is in the closed position, said two half-element members are substantially aligned with each other, and when said folding top is in the open position, said two half-element members are positioned substantially on top of one another and have a substantially C-shape.

37. (New) The folding top assembly according to claim 36 further comprising two rear appendage members, said appendage members being hinged to said frame member and positioned substantially perpendicular to said cover member and substantially vertical when said cover member is in the closed position.